



Date: June 13, 2003
To: Members of the Marine Advisory Commission
From: Mark A. Sandoval, Manager of Marinas and Beaches
Subject: MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2003
MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION (MAC)

Commissioners Present

Michelle Spence, Chairwoman
Richard L. Miller, Vice Chair
Mike Malbon
Mike Reed
Bradley Whyte
Robert Weeks

Marine Bureau Personnel

Mark Sandoval, Manager, Marine Bureau
Doug Parsons, Superintendent, Marine Bureau
Vivian Crook, Secretary, Marine Bureau

City Staff

Ramon Arevalo, Supt., Marine Maint.
Mark Boone, Chief, Lifeguards, LBFD
Dennis Eschen, Manager, Plan.& Devel.
Jay Johnson, Lieutenant, LBPB
Tim Jackman, Deputy Chief, LBPB
John Bretza, LBPB
Tim O'Donnell, LBPB Sgt., Marine Patrol
Avonne Gravel, City Council, 3rd Dist.
Robert Lafoon-Villegas, City Council, 2nd Dist.

Commissioners Absent

Holly Carpenter
Harry Hutton
Mike Vescovi

Guests

Amy Bentley-Smith, Grunion Gazette
Martin Arroyo, Marine Patrol Officers Asso.
Laurie Morrison
Philip Dominguez
Jeffrey Spigner
Walid A. Lotfy
Toni Dahlstrom
Martin Arroyo, Marine Patrol Officers Asso.
Mike Vella, Marine Patrol Officers Asso.
Carl Kirnbauer, LBMBOA
Bud Johnson, former MAC commissioner

Vice Chairman Miller convened the meeting at 2:30 p.m., at the Long Beach Yacht Club.

ROLL CALL

Mark Sandoval called the roll of commissioners and introduced Marine Bureau personnel, City staff and guests.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- The minutes of the May 8, 2003, MAC meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

BUREAU MANAGER'S REPORT

Marina Operations Report

Doug Parsons gave the Marine Bureau Major Accomplishments, the Activity Report for ABM/LBSM, and the Total Vessels In and Out by Marina for the month of May.

- Doug Parsons explained that the report shows an adjustment for the slips being held open due to the LBSM rebuild.
- Doug asked that MAC members get back to him with comments about the new format of the Operations Report.
- Doug invited MAC members to attend the dock meetings regarding the LBSM rebuild, to be held in the LBSM on June 23 and 24 at 7 p.m., at the Shoreline Yacht Club.
- Mark Sandoval talked about the paperwork he had distributed to the MAC in 2001, regarding the automatic consumer price index inflator that would take the CPI from May of that year to equal the following year and automatically on October 1st increase rates to match the CPI. Last year the Department suspended the CIP inflator and went with the market based pricing for the one year, with the presumption that this was a suspension for just one year and from then on the CPI inflator would be allowed to take effect.

The CPI rate is 3% based on April CPI figures. Next month Mark will bring a full rate proposal package before the MAC.

- Commissioner Reed asked about the progress of the small boat launch for the university (CSULB).

Chairwoman Spence asked if there was real need for this program, and felt the Department should ask the university to make a commitment regarding expanding the program.

Mark Sandoval said he would speak with Rita Hayes regarding this issue.

Maintenance Operations Report

Ramon Arevalo gave the Marine Maintenance status report for the month of May.

- Beach rest room upgrades continue.
- An outside contractor wants to use a net to collect trash at the entrance to Rainbow Harbor/Marina in place of the Nautilus Boom.
- A comment was made regarding the need for weeding in Basins 1 and 2. Ramon Arevalo said he would notify grounds maintenance staff.
- Ramon Arevalo said he would be meeting with contractors regarding the Belmont Pool bulkhead. Maintenance is waiting for specs on the bulkhead.
- Thirty people met today at a proposal meeting for the LBSM rebuild. Mark Sandoval said that Concept Marine Associates (CMA) is putting a lot of work into the project. Response to a Request for Proposal regarding the rebuild is due in two weeks. Hopefully, the project will be under construction by the end of the year.

Marine Safety Report

Lifeguard Chief Mark Boone gave the Marine Safety status report for the month of May.

- Recurrent Lifeguards start back to work on June 14.
- This summer, Junior Lifeguard Program staff will take a pro-active stance towards parents who double-park their vehicles on the Peninsula while dropping off their kids. Marine Safety has received complaints from residents in the area regarding this problem, and has sent out letters to parents reminding them not to double-park.
- The Mayor took part in a photo opportunity with the Lifeguards for the receipt of the eleven new vehicles from Chevrolet.
- Over the next eight weeks, Lifeguards will support 19 special events.
- Mark Sandoval reported that he met with Ken Williams (kayak rentals) and representatives from (Bay Boat Rentals) to discuss numbering their boats, putting their phone number on their boats, and providing guidelines to users. Residents in the canals can now call with complaints/concerns regarding users. This has allowed Ken and Bay Boats to distinguish between their renters and private boat owners. This program has been well received and is working.

Marine Patrol Report

Sergeant Tim O'Donnell reported on Marine Patrol activities for the month of May.

- Sergeant O'Donnell introduced himself as the new LBPDP Sergeant in charge of the Marine Patrol Division.
- The Marine Patrol Division will be up to full staff in three weeks. Three new patrol officers will be coming on board.
- Two yacht club burglaries occurred over the last two weeks. Suspects have been identified. Computers were stolen from the Long Beach Yacht Club and money was stolen from the Alamitos Bay Yacht Club.
- The LBPDP is ready to start-up a new Community Policing Program using Marine Patrol officers.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- Deputy Chief Tim Jackman spoke to the issue of Peace Officer Status (Peace Officer Status) for Marine Patrol Officers. He said that he was very impressed with the level of customer service provided to the boatowners by the Marine Patrol Division.

He stated that it would cost 3.5 million dollars to convert Marine Patrol Officers to Peace Officers. Thirty Marine Patrol Officers would need to be put through the Police Academy, a 26-28 week program (full-time, six month commitment). The LBPD would have to start up second Police Academy for the year to accomplish this. He added that Peace Officers are entitled to a higher rate of insurance, and that there are other financial issues. His concern is where the money would come from. He did not believe that changing the status of Marine Patrol Officers is the answer. He indicated that more training would be provided to the Marine Patrol Division, and that this is a positive change.

Deputy Chief Jackman remarked on the positive changes of LBPD management with Chief Batts now in charge of LBPD, Lt. Johnson now in charge of Marine Patrol, and Tim O'Donnell LBPD Sergeant of Marine Patrol. Sergeant O'Donnell is a former Marine Patrol Officer and understands the needs of the Marine Patrol Officers. He asked that this new leadership be given a chance to operate

He said that Marine Patrol will be given an upgrade of equipment, computers will be installed in cars, and old equipment will be replaced (radios, etc.). LBPD is changing its approach towards the needs of the Marine Patrol Division. He said he has asked the City Attorney to look into why Marine Patrol officers cannot transport prisoners. There is no law on the books prohibiting this. Transport of prisoners does not occur very often, but the down side of transporting is that it does take an officer out of the area.

Deputy Chief Jackman explained the Marine Patrol's authority to arrest, and said that they will be further trained in this and other areas. He asked that the MAC hold off on taking any action regarding their concerns until the management team now in place has been allowed to work on these issues.

Chairwoman Spence thanked Deputy Chief Jackman for the information he provided and for his candid remarks. She stated that the MAC had stayed silent on the issue because they had no information to go on. She said that the MAC receives nothing but positive remarks regarding Marine Patrol. The MAC wants what is best for the tenants and economics is a consideration. Officer presence is also a very big concern to the boatowners.

Chairwoman Spence asked if the Marine Patrol Division would be given back the ability to handle truants. Deputy Chief Jackman responded that a daytime loitering ordinance is not on the books, and that this is being looked into.

Marine Patrol Officer Martin Arroyo addressed the MAC and thanked the LBPDP for coming to the meeting. He stated that the team meeting held between the Marine Patrol Division and the LBPDP was a good experience and that now is a new era of communication. He is happy that new equipment and training will be provided. He did feel that there needed to be an enhanced ability to address criminal issues as they arise. He stated that the Marine Patrol Division is in a wait and see mode regarding resolution of these issues.

Chairwoman Spence thanked Sergeant Arroyo for doing a good job with getting Marine Patrol issues addressed. She stated that the work Marine Patrol does for the boatowner is critical.

Commissioner Malbon stated that this new management team/process should be given time to work, and that perhaps Lt. Johnson and Sergeant Arroyo could meet with the MAC again in six months and give an update from their perspective.

Vice Chairman Miller stated that Sergeant Arroyo and the Marine Patrol Division has handled this situation very well. They have been very professional and have presented important issues to the MAC that they were not aware of.

Chairwoman Spence said that the MAC would send a letter to the City Council regarding the information they have received about the broadening of the scope of capacity given to the Marine Patrol Division, and that they are supportive of the plan to maintain their status and have additional training done. She would include the need for the LBPDP and the City to evaluate the rules on the books and change them if necessary. The MAC asked that the LBPDP and Marine Patrol staff report back in six months.

- Mark Sandoval provided the draft of the MAC Annual Report for final review by MAC.

Commissioner Reed stated that he felt an addition should be made under the Facilities Committee section stating that the MAC will continue in the role of overview of Public Works. Dennis Eschen said that he would submit a paragraph.

It was moved by Commissioner Reed and seconded by Commissioner Malbon that the MAC adopt and submit the MAC Annual Report, with the addition of comments under the Finance Section regarding the MAC's continued overview of the Public Works Department. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive MAC

- Vice Chairman Miller stated that the draft report from the LBPDP regarding the Marine Patrol Division issues was reviewed.
- There are new lights on the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier.
- The Coastal Commission has approved the Dog Beach, however, the Dog Beach Ordinance needs to first be changed and then approved by the City Council.
- Doug Parsons will be setting up meetings with boatowners in the LBSM regarding the rebuild and slip movement.

June 13, 2003

Page 6

Operations Committee

- Martin Arroyo discussed the Marine Patrol issue with the Operations Committee.

Facilities Committee

Commissioner Reed reported on the Facilities Committee issues:

- The Shoreline Harbor Marina boom contract was awarded to Ray Environmental.
- A schedule of when launch ramps will be slurried is needed.
- The Department is in the process of getting a DBAW grant for caterpillar equipment for Beach Operations. Chairwoman Spence was concerned about proper training for staff operating the equipment.
- The Rowing Center is to be completed by the end of June.
- Basin 8 will be opened by July 2003.
- Mark Sandoval is preparing a request for DBAW funding for the mooring concept off the oceanfront. He said that usually the local restaurants manage the moorings.
- Commissioner Reed asked if a letter could be sent to Public Works asking them about the status of their report to the MAC that has been due for some time. Mark Sandoval said that he would discuss the issue with Phil Hester.

Finance and Information Committee

- Next meeting, September 11, 2003.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- It was decided by the MAC that the July 10 meeting would be held at the Shoreline Yacht Club.
- Commissioner Whyte asked how the Dock Captain Program was coming along. Mark Sandoval responded that he sent out a request in two newsletters and that out of 70 docks, only 10 people responded. They have been activated. The requirement is that the Dock Captains be liveboards and have email. It was felt that liveboards would provide the best input regarding their gangways and that email would facilitate correspondence between the Dock Captain and the Manager.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

- None

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. The next meeting is set for July 10, 2003, at 2:30 p.m.

cc: Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine
City Clerk